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<div>Division of Forensic Science</div> <div>PROCEDURES MANUAL: Forensic Imaging & Audio Analysis</div>	Amendment Designator: A
	Effective Date: 29-September-2004
<div>7 IMAGE COMPARISONS</div> <div>7.1 Purpose</div> <p>This document contains the procedures for photographic or image comparisons. The principle behind these comparisons is the same as that behind the comparison of fingerprints, footwear impressions, firearm identifications, or any other kind of physical evidence - the principle of individualization.</p> <div>7.2 Equipment and Materials</div> <p>The following equipment and materials may be used</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conventional and digital cameras • Various flatbed scanners • Computer hardware and software • Various printers with appropriate output media • Various magnification devices <div>7.3 Procedures</div> <p>7.3.1 The evidence will be received in accordance with Division evidence handling procedures (see Section 20 in the Quality Manual).</p> <p>7.3.2 The equipment to be utilized will be selected based on the type of evidence to be compared.</p> <p>7.3.3 The object or person of interest in an unknown image will be compared with a known image of the suspected object or person (or the object or person it/themself). The process will begin with the identification of individualized characteristics in the images of the objects or persons. Those characteristics and their spatial relationships will then be assessed. This may be a side by side comparison of printed media, an overlay of images on a computer or a variation of these techniques. Individualized characteristics and their relationships may be used to effect or exclude identification. However, due to the nature of the evidence, the examination may prove to be inconclusive.</p> <p>7.3.4 The proper documentation will be retained in accordance with Division documentation procedures (see Section 13.8 of the Quality Manual).</p> <div>7.4 Calibration</div> <p>Calibration procedures and scheduled maintenance for all equipment will be done in accordance with manufacturers' Recommendations and recorded in the maintenance log located in the appropriate laboratory.</p> <div>7.5 Calculations</div> <p>Calculations will be determined by the type of evidence being examined, and by the type of measurement or determination being made.</p> <div>7.6 Limitations</div> <p>It must be recognized that the greatest limitation of the comparison process is the quality of the submitted evidence and the ability to resolve the individual characteristics that differentiate the item from other similar items.</p> <div>7.7 Safety</div> <p>Gloves should be worn to handle any potentially bio-hazardous evidence.</p>	

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<div>7.8 References</div> <div> <div>Advances in Fingerprint Technology, Chapter 2, Robert D. Olsen, Sr.</div> <div>Footwear Impression Evidence, Chapter 11, William I. Bodziak</div> <div>Tire Imprint Evidence, Chapter 9, Peter McDonald</div> <div>► End</div> </div>	